

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2434 – SB 2552

March 11, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires a local education agency (LEA) to promote a student who has missed more than the maximum allowed number of days pursuant to the LEA's attendance policy if the student completes the required coursework and curriculum. Requires the LEA to obtain: written documentation from the parent or guardian to explain absences; documentation from teachers that the student has completed the necessary requirements; and any additional information required by the Department of Education or the LEA.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Other Fiscal Impact – State and local Basic Education Program (BEP) expenditures will decrease in the second fiscal year following high school graduation of students that were promoted as a result of this bill. Any such decrease in expenditures is dependent upon multiple unknown factors and cannot be reasonably quantified; however, any decrease will not significantly impact the BEP funding formula in any given fiscal year.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014182): Deletes all language of the original bill. Prohibits a local education agency (LEA) from retaining a student on the sole basis of missing more than the maximum allowable number of days pursuant to the LEA's attendance policy, if the student has completed all coursework and otherwise meets the requirements for completion and advancement in such coursework; has provided an adequate excuse, per LEA policy, for being absent more than the allowable number of days; and has provided any other additional information the LEA may require.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The number of students who will be promoted as a result of this bill cannot be reasonably quantified. The grade level that such students are in at the time of promotion; the Basic Education Program (BEP) funding in the years following their

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promotion; and the school system from which they graduate will be factors that influence any decrease in state and local BEP expenditures.

- Currently, students are counted in the BEP funding formula in the year after they graduate high school.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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